

Senate Bill No. 338

Passed the Senate August 25, 2005

Secretary of the Senate

Passed the Assembly August 18, 2005

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2005, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

An act to add Chapter 5.8 (commencing with Section 51950) to Part 28 of the Education Code, relating to curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 338, Maldonado. School curricula: Internet safety.

Existing law prescribes various matters to be included in the adopted course of study at the appropriate elementary and secondary grade levels.

This bill would authorize the State Department of Education, in cooperation with industry, and nonprofit organizations involved with Internet safety, to identify existing Internet safety programs and make that information available on its Web site for use in public schools.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Pupils are spending increasingly greater amounts of time interacting on the Internet in the course of both research and social interaction.

(b) With the increase in worldwide Internet use, many safety concerns have arisen with regard to Internet use, including concerns as to personal safety, privacy, and the protection of intellectual property.

(c) Increased use of the Internet as an educational tool has raised concerns in the areas of cheating, plagiarism, and illegal downloading, and pupils are more tempted than ever to engage in unethical, and sometimes unlawful, practices in these areas. Without providing warnings or raising pupil awareness as to these dangers, the ease of Internet use and the availability of resources is likely to cause some younger pupils to engage in these practices ignorantly.

(d) The risks and dangers that are increasingly associated with Internet use are as real and as dangerous to pupils and to society as the more familiar physical dangers addressed in school safety

plans and codes of conduct, and it is in the best interests of the state to educate pupils concerning these risks and dangers.

SEC. 2. Chapter 5.8 (commencing with Section 51950) is added to Part 28 of the Education Code, to read:

CHAPTER 5.8. INTERNET SAFETY EDUCATION

51950. The department, in cooperation with industry, and nonprofit organizations involved with Internet safety, is authorized to identify existing Internet safety programs and make that information available on its Web site for use in public schools. The department is authorized to act as liaison between the schools and school districts and the industry and nonprofit organizations involved with Internet safety.

Approved _____, 2005

Governor